

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 17-18 without prejudice and amend dependent claim 16 to be independent and to read as shown below.

1-15. (Canceled)

- 5 16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for accelerating database query processing, comprising:
- determining during execution of a particular query whether continued execution of a particular query
- execution plan is worthwhile by
- 10 calculating the amount of query execution remaining;
- placing a number of checkpoints in the query execution plan;
- computing the difference between estimated optimization parameter values and actual
- optimization parameter values at a given checkpoint to determine the significance of
- parameter estimation errors, by pushing the checkpoint below a materialization point
- 15 for subsequent execution, The method of claim 13 further comprising transferring
- each row to its parent operator in a pipelined manner, storing identifiers of all rows
- returned on a side table using an INSERT plan operator just below the return
- operator, then compensating for returned row results by executing an anti join
- between the side table and a new result stream;
- 20 concluding that continued execution is not worthwhile if a significant amount of query
- execution remains and significant parameter estimation errors have occurred; and
- if continued execution is not worthwhile, then suspending query execution, re-optimizing the query,
- and restarting query execution with a re-optimized query plan.

17-18. (Canceled)